

CONFIDENTIAL.
No. C/22/36

C.S.

1936

Col. Secretary.

SUBJECT.

1936.

25th September.

SCHEME FOR IMPROVEMENT OF THE PASTURE ON STANLEY COMMON IN CONNECTION WITH THE GENERAL POLICY OF INCREASING THE STOCK CARRYING CAPACITY OF LAND THROUGHOUT THE COLONY.

Previous Paper.

MINUTES.

1-2. Letter to Hon. Ld. St. Young. 25/9/36.

Y.E.
Despatched to the F. I. C. today - having arrived with Captain Roberts in the inclusion of the letter in their air mail. a copy has also been sent for Mr. Goddard.
J.E.S.
25/9/36

PA.
J.E.S.
25/9

3. Telegram to Hon. Ld. St. Young. 7/10/36

Subsequent Paper.

C/22/36.

25th September, 36.

CONFIDENTIAL.

Sir,

I am directed to inform you that the Government has under consideration a scheme for improvement of the pasture on Stanley Common in connection with the general policy of increasing the stock carrying capacity of the land throughout the Colony.

2. The common embraces an area estimated at 5,000 acres of poor land, has never been spelled, does not even suffice to feed the 200 to 300 head of stock depastured and in many respects exemplified the worst evils of mismanagement of pastures in the Colony. Common land in other countries have as you are aware the same reputation. There is no apparent reason why the process of deterioration should not be stopped here and improvements be made which will not only enable Stanley to provide its own milk supply so badly needed for its nutritious value, but will afford an object lesson for all the farmers in the Colony.

3. It is proposed in the first instance to treat some 300 acres now being fenced and incidentally to abolish the dole by providing work for all the unemployed the soil being hand turned and subsequently hand sown. In order not to interfere with the supply of labour for the farms, work will be limited to three or four days a week/

THE HONOURABLE
L. W. H. YOUNG, J.P.,
c/o FALKLAND ISLANDS COMPANY, LIMITED,
61, GRACECHURCH STREET,
LONDON, E.C. 3.

week at rates which will be generally less than farm earnings.

4. You will appreciate that the first essential to success is good supervision by a man with farming knowledge who can handle labour. The difficulty locally of securing such a man is as you are aware extreme. The Government has had in mind the possibility of securing Mr. Gilruth's services for twelve months or such longer time as could be arranged if he would agree. I have however learned that Mr. Gilruth has recently entered into a further agreement with the Falkland Islands Company.

5. I am to request, particularly in view of the interests to be served, that the Company will consider releasing Mr. Gilruth if he is willing to undertake the work herein suggested. His Excellency attaches great importance to this matter while realizing that the Company may consider that it is not possible to meet the wishes of the Government.

6. In the event of Mr. Gilruth's being released, I would be grateful if you would suggest an appropriate salary which Mr. Gilruth might accept.

7. I would add that the Stock Adviser is warmly in favour of the proposal dealt with herein and that the work to be undertaken should be of great value in connection with the visit of Mr. Davis of the Welsh Plant Breeding Station in the spring of next year. As you know an application has been sent to the Secretary of State for a grant of £20,000 from the Colonial Development Fund for grassland improvement in the Colony.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,



Acting Colonial Secretary.

DECODE.

TELEGRAM.

From Colonial Secretary,

To Hon. L. W. H. Young, London.

Despatched: 7th October, 19 36. Time: ...

Received: 19 ... Time: ...

My letter 25th September please take no action regarding
person named in paragraphs 4, 5 and 6.

COLONIAL SECRETARY.